

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 AGR-20 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03

RSR-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 IO-13 PRS-01 USIE-00

IGA-02 /159 W

----- 038765

O R 241050Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2250

INFO SECDEF

CINCPAC

COMUSMACTHAI

USAAG

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 7523

FOR STATE/AID

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EAID, CB

SUBJECT: RICE SITUATION

REF: PHNOM PENH 7418

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A PROJECTION OF THE RICE SITUATION IN
PHNOM PENH COVERING THE PERIOD FROM JULY 21 THRU AUGUST 3, 1973.

	7/21	7/22	7/23
BEGINNING STOCK	16,286.4	19,989.5	22,189.5
ROUTE 4	3,290	--	--
ROUTE 5	823	--	--
MEKONG RIVER	--	2,200	--
TOTAL AVAILABLE	20,399.4	22,189.5	22,189.5

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LESS DISTRIBUTION 382.5 -- 314.9

LESS ADJUSTMENT

(WET RICE,ETC.) 27.4 -- 22.1

BALANCE 19,989.5 22,189.5 21,852.5

7/24 7/25 7/26

BEGINNING STOCK 21,852.5 22,532.5 22,012.5

ROUTE 4 -- -- 360

ROUTE 5 1,200 -- --

MEKONG RIVER -- -- --

TOTAL AVAILABLE 23,052.5 22,532.5 22,372.5

LESS DISTRIBUTION 520 520 520

BALANCE 22,852.5 22,012.5 21,852.5

7/27 7/28 7/29

BEGINNING STOCK 21,852.5 21,332.5 21,612.5

ROUTE 4 -- -- --

ROUTE 5 -- 800 --

MEKONG RIVER -- -- --

TOTAL AVAILABLE 21,852.5 22,132.5 21,612.5

LESS DISTRIBUTION 520 520 520

BALANCE 21,332.5 21,612.5 21,092.5

7/30 7/31 8/1

BEGINNING STOCK 21,092.5 20,572.5 20,052.5

ROUTE 4 -- -- --

ROUTE 5 -- -- 800

MEKONG RIVER -- -- --

TOTAL AVAILABLE 21,092.5 20,572.5 20,852.5

LESS DISTRIBUTION 520 520 520

BALANCE 20,572.5 20,052.5 20,332.5

8/2 8/3

BEGINNING STOCK 20,332.5 19,812.5

ROUTE 4 -- --

ROUTE 5 -- --

MEKONG RIVER -- 4,210

TOTAL AVAILABLE 20,332.5 24,022.5

LESS DISTRIBUTION 520 520

BALANCE 19,812.5 23,502.5 EQUALS 45.2 DAYS

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- 1)IN THE EVENT ROUTE 4 IS CLOSED: 23,142.5 AT 520 - 44.5 DAYS
- 2)IN THE EVENT ROUTE 5 IS CLOSED: 21,902.5 AT 520 - 42.1 DAYS
- 3)IN THE EVENT THE MEKONG IS CLOSED: 19,292.5 AT 520 - 37.1 DAYS
- 4)IN THE EVENT ALL ARE CLAOSSED: 17,332.5 AT 520 - 33.3 DAYS

2. RICE AIRLIFTS. THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITY HAS BEEN REPORTED BY THE GKR RIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD JULY 21 THROUGH 23, BY NUMBER OF SORTIES AND METRIC TONS OF THE GKR AIRLIFT.

	KOMPONG THOM	SVAY RIENG	KOMPONG CHAM
7/21	3 - 7.8	3 - 9.0	2 - 12.9
7/22	2 - 5.2	4 - 12.0	5 - 32.6
7/23	3 - 8.1	4 - 12.0	4 - 26.9

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE U.S.-FINANCED AIRLIFTS PERFORMED AS FOLLOWS:

	AIR AMERICA SAIGON TO SVAY RIENG	USAF C-130'S PHNOM PENH TO KOMPONG CHAM
7/21	12 - 63.5	NONE
7/22	6 - 34.7	3 - 33.7
7/23	10 - 57.8	4 - 42.0

THE SUM OF THE TOTAL EFFORT SO FAR IN JULY IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. FROM JULY 11 THROUGH 23, KOMPONG CHAM RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 451.8 M/T, OF WHICH 308.5 WERE AIRLIFTED BY USAF C-130'S AND 143.3 M/T BY DOMESTIC AIRLINES, AGAINST A MONTHLY RICE TARGET OF 800 M/T.

B. FROM JULY 1 THROUGH 23, SVAY RIENG RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 679.4 M/T BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS:

AIRDROPS FROM UTAPAO	241.9 M/T
AIR AMERICA FROM SAIGON	215.3 M/T
DOMESTIC AIRLINES FROM PHNOM PENH	222.2 M/T

THE MONTHLY RICE QUOTA IS 1,000 M/T.

C. AT KOMPONG THM, A TOTAL OF 202.2 M/T WERE AIRLANDED BY DOMESTIC AIRLINES BETWEEN JULY 1 AND 23, AGAINST A MONTHLY RICE QUOTA OF 200 M/T.

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IGA-02 /159 W

----- 038947

O R 241050Z JUL 73
 FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2251
 INFO SECDEF
 CINCPAC
 COMUSMACTHAI
 USAAG
 DIA WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY SAIGON
 AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 7523

FOR STATE/AID

D. AT SVAY RIENG, THE INITIAL MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES OVER THE PURPOSE OF A DUAL AIRLIFT HAS BEEN RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY. REPORTS FROM KOMPONG CHAM ON THE RICE SITUATION INDICATE THAT FOLLOWING THE CLOSE OF ROUTE 7 BY THE ENEMY, EACH FAMILY HAD ACQUIRED BETWEEN 20 AND 30 BAGS OF PADDY. WITH THE RICE AIRLIFT WELL UNDERWAY, THE OFFICIAL PRICE FOR ONE 100-LBS. BAG OF RICE HAS COME DOWN FROM 3,100 TO 2,412 RIELS IN THAT TOWN. THERE ARE SMALL SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY CONNECTED WITH THE GKR AIRLIFTS. PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES ARE BEGINNING TO DEPOSIT PROCEEDS FROM RICE SALES INTO LOCAL TREASURY ACCOUNTS. A SINGLE RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AT EACH LOCATION TO TAKE DELIVERY OF AIRLANDED RICE AND TO SIGN ARRIVAL RECEIPTS.

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3. RICE PRICES. OPEN MARKET PRICES FOR RICE 1/15 IN QUANTITIES IN 15 KG. OR MORE DECREASED SLIGHTLY. RICE 1/15 AND 1/25 PURCHASED IN UNITS OF 15 KG. ALSO DECREASED. BROKENS 1/2 AND BROKENS 3/4 WERE NOT AVAILABLE.

7/24/73

RICE 1 KG. 15 KG. 100 KG. GKR 100 KG.

1/15 80 1,100 6,800 5,700

1/25 75 900 6,400 5,500

1/50 60 850 5,400 5,000

BROKENS

1/2 -- -- -- 3,700

BROKENS

3/4 -- -- -- 2,500

4. RICE DISTRIBUTION. RICE DISTRIBUTION CONTINUES TO FALL BELOW THE 550 M/T QUOTA PER DAY. IN VIEW OF THE CONTINUING DECLINE IN THE DISTRIBUTUION RATE, WE ARE NOW PROJECTING THE DAPLY DISTRIBUTION RATE

FOR PHNOM PENH AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS AT 520 M/T PER DAY.

5. ROUTE 4. ROUTE 4 REMAINS OPEN TO CONVOY TRAFFIC. LOADING TRUCKS DIRECTLY AT THE PIER WORKED WELL AND THE COMBINED TRUCK CONVOYS ARRIVED IN PHNOM PENH ON JULY 21 WITH APPROXIMATELY 3,290 M/T OF RICE. 1,750 M/T HAS BEEN LEFT IN KOMPONG SOM FOR THE MARITIME PROVINCES AND THE REMAINING 360 M/T FROM THE HOEGH PILOT IS SCHEDULED TO BE DELIVERED TO PHNOM PENH ON JULY 26.

6. ROUTE 5.

A. ROUTE 5 ALSO REMAINS OPEN TO CONVOY TRAFFIC AND A CONVOY ARRIVED IN PHNOM PENH ON JULY 21 WITH AN ESTIMATED 823 M/T OF RICE. THE NEXT CONVOY IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN PHNOM PENH TODAY (JULY 24) WITH AN ESTIMATED 1,200 M/T OF RICE. ALTHOUGH THE AMOUNT OF RICE FROM BATTAMBANG IS INCREASING THE CONVOY SYSTEM IS STILL PLAGUED WITH PROBLEMS. ALTHOUGH MINISTRY OF COMMERCE ISSUED AN EDICT THAT TRUCKS LEAVING BATTAMBANG CAN ONLY CARRY RICE, MANY TRUCKS ENROUTE TO BATTAMBANG ARE NOW ONLY GOING AS FAR AS KOMPONG CHHNANG WHERE THEY PICK UP MORE PROFITABLE LOADS OF MIXED GOODS.

LB. THE GKR RICE COMMITTEE IS CONCERNED WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE CONVOY SYSTEM AND WILL HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING JULY 25 WITH VARIOUS GKR REPRESENTATIVES IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE
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THE SYSTEM.

C. SATRAR HAS BEEN SLOW IN TRANSPORTING ITS STOCK FROM BATTAMBANG. THEREFORE, THE RICE COMMITTEE DECIDED THAT SATRAR MUST BRING ALL ITS STOCK TO PHNOM PENH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, REGARDLESS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COSTS.

D. IN ADDITION TO TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS, THE SITUATION IN BATTAMBANG IS FAR FROM ENCOURAGING. THE PROVINCE CHIEF CONTINUES TO GO THROUGH THE MOTIONS BUT HAS DONE LITTLE TO EFFECTIVELY ASSIST SORAPA PURCHASE AND TRANSPORT RICE TO PHNOM PENH. RICE MERCHANTS CONTINUE TO HOARD STOCKS IN HOPES OF HIGHER PRICES.

E. PRIME MINISTER IN TAM IS REPORTEDLY TO BE EXTREMELY UPSET BY THE PROVINCE CHIEF'S LACK OF SUPPORT. ACCORDING TO LY KIM HENG, IN TAM CRITICIZED THE GOVERNOR PUBLICLY DURING A JULY 24 SPEECH ON THE KHMER RADIO. IN VIEW OF THE SITUATION, THE EMBASSY IS CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF AGAIN MAKING REPRESENTATIONS TO LON NOL.

7. MEKONG CONVOY. THE MEKONG CONVOY ARRIVED SAFELY IN PHNOM PENH JULY 22 WITH APPROXIMATELY 2,200 M/T. THE NEXT CONVOY IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN PHNOM PENH AUGUST 3 WITH THE REMAINING RICE FROM VIETNAM.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PHNOM07523
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SWANK
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730714/aaaaakbn.tel
Line Count: 278
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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